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A PRESENT VALUE APPROACH TO THE RETIREMENT DECISION

LT COL WILLIAM J. WALSH
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

MAY 1985

FINAL REPORT

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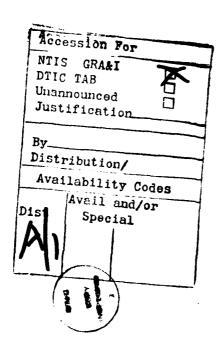
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"A PRESENT VALUE APPROACH TO THE RETIREMENT DECISION"

by

Lt. Col. William J. Walsh

ABSTRACT

This paper examines the financial side of the decision to retire from active duty. The methodology is one of computing the present values of two possible streams of income. The first stream of income is that received by someone who opts for immediate retirement. The components are immediate retired pay and, presumably, immediate civilian salary. The second possible stream of income is that received by someone who opts to remain on active duty. The components are current military pay, military retirement beginning at a later date, and civilian salary beginning at a later date. This paper presents the methodology for determining the "breakeven income"—the civilian income which would equate the values of the two alternative streams of income.

The principal tool used is "present value analysis". The methodology allows for differences in age, expected civilian raises, discount rates, possible "capping" of retired pay, rank, and years of service.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Title page	i
Abstract	ii
Table of contents	iii
Presentation of the Problem	1
The geometry of present discounted value	5
The algebra of present discounted value	10
Methodology and assumptions	14
Results	24
Incorporating promotion possibilities	28
What this analysis does and doesn't do	30
References	31

SECTION ONE

PRESENTATION OF THE PROBLEM

The principal financial considerations in the retirement decision are the military pay schedule, the retired pay schedule, and civilian pay opportunities. While the military and retired pay schedules are a matter of law, civilian pay opportunities vary significantly from individual to individual. This paper describes a procedure which "custom tailors" a financial criterion to the situation of the individual attempting to make a retirement decision.

The first financial factor mentioned, the military salary schedule, describes the military pay the individual can expect as a function of his rank and years of service. Military pay is an inducement to remain on active duty as there is no military pay once retired. Greater time on active duty generally entitles members to greater pay, up to some maximum for each rank. The maximum is normally reached at about the time the member would be expected to pin on the next higher rank, if selected "on time" for promotion.

The second financial factor mentioned, the retired pay schedule, describes the retired pay the individual can expect as a function of his rank and years of service. Retired pay is both an incentive to retire (because there is no entitlement until retirement) and an incentive to remain on active duty (because the yearly entitlement grows with greater years of service). The minimum service time to be eligible for retirement is currently 20 years. There is no vesting of retirement benefits

for those with fewer years of service. Members eligible for retirement are paid at the rate of 2.5% of base pay for each year of creditable active duty, up to a maximum of 30 years active duty or 75% of base pay. What this means for the individual is: the retirement check will be larger the longer the individual is on active duty, but the longer the individual is on active duty the number of checks likely to be received; gets smaller.

Civilian pay opportunities are an incentive to retire as the civilian pay will not be received until civilian employment begins.

The retirement decision can be seen as a choice between two financial values: the value of all the incomes from "staying in" and the value of all the incomes from "getting out". The word "value" refers to "present discounted value" which will be described below and which is abbreviated as "PV". The present value of something will be denoted by PV(something). The present value of "staying in" is the sum of the following three items:

PV(military pay for applicable rank and years of service)
plus
PV(retired pay for rank and years of service at ret'mt)
plus
PV(civilian pay from retirement till civilian ret'mt)

The present value of "getting out" is the sum of the following two items:

PV(retired pay for current rank and years of service)
plus
PV(civilian pay from current retimt till civilian retimt)

This report determines the civilian pay which would equate the two present values of the two alternatives. That is, it determines what civilian salary it would take to make the decision a financial "flip of the coin". If the individual has civilian salary prospects greater that the "breakeven salary", earlier retirement is a financially preferable alternative. If the individual has civilian salary prospects less than the "breakeven salary", then remaining on active duty is the financially preferable alternative. In the form of an algebraic equation, the situation looks like this for a Colonel with 24 years of service who is comparing the alternative of retiring now (1985 as of this writing) or in 2 years:

PV(MP,6,24,1985-1986) + PV(RP,6,26,1987-die) + PV(CP,1987-quit)

PV(RP,6,24,1985-die) + PV(CP,1985-quit)

where MP = military pay RP = retired pay CP = civilian pay

where MP and RP are determined by rank = 6, and by years of service = 24 or 26 (as appropriate)

and where PV of each is determined by the years over which the pay will be received (till the death or till quitting/retiring).

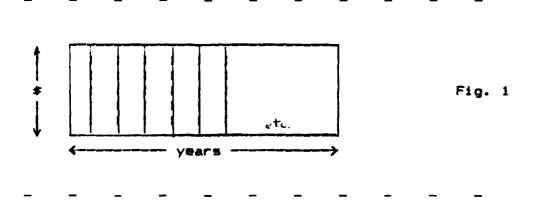
As military pay schedules, retired pay schedules, and the method of finding present value are all known, the only unknown quantity is the "breakeven" civilian pay. In algebraic terms, one equation with one unknown is solvable for the value of the unknown.

Section Two gives a geometric description of "present discounted value". Section Three is an in-depth look at the formula used in accomplishing this report. Section Four continues with a description of other factors which determine the amount of pay to be received other than rank and years of service.

SECTION TWO

THE GEOMETRY OF PRESENT DISCOUNTED VALUE

Military retirement can be thought of as stacks of money which will be paid out for series of years. A picture of this could be a rectangle with the height representing the number of dollars and the length representing the number of years. (Fig. 1)



Each stack represents a FUTURE VALUE of dollars to be received. It is possible, though certainly not current policy, to pay an individual all that money "up front" and then let that individual disburse the regular payments to himself. Would, then, the single big stack have to be as tall as the sum of individual stacks? If the individual were allowed to invest the money and receive an interest rate, then the size of the stack required would clearly be smaller because payments could be made from both the principal and the interest accumulated. The size of the original stack required to allow all the payments to be made is the PRESENT VALUE.

Geometrically, the box representing payments could then be

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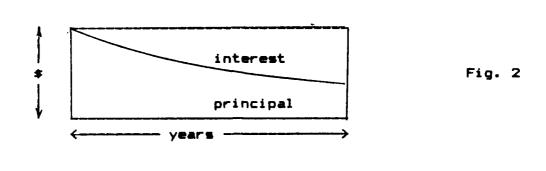
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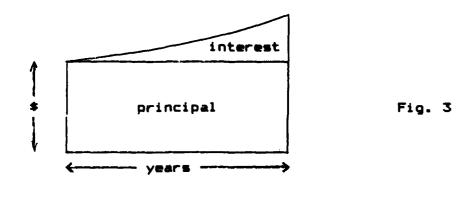
redrawn. The new box (Figure 2) has an arcing line crossing it



from left to right. The area above the line represents the interest received on the original stack of money. This interest supplements the money paid from the principal—the original stack of money. The total area is the total money received in the form of regular, uniform payments. Another name for regular, equal payments or receipts is an ANNUITY. Car payments are one form of annuity which individuals use to pay principal and interest on a car loan in regular, equal payments. A home mortgage is another form of annuity. Military pay is an annuity which is a series of regular, equal payments. Retirement checks are also an annuity.

Another form of annuity is an allotment to a savings account. With this type of annuity, regular deductions are made from a members paycheck and deposited for him in his bank. An annuity of this type would earn interest. With no withdrawals, the interest earned in one year would earn interest itself during

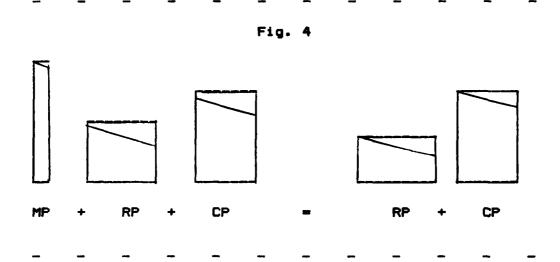
the following year. This is, as you probably know, called compound interest. The geometric picture of compound interest is presented below in Figure 3. The principal is the amount



deposited over the years. The portion above the box is the interest accrued. Notice that is rises at an increasing rate. That is because of the compounding of the interest. Now notice the similarity between Figures 2 and 3. It is often said that finding present discounted value is like working a compound interest problem in reverse. This is even more apparent in the algebraic description of present discounted value in the following section.

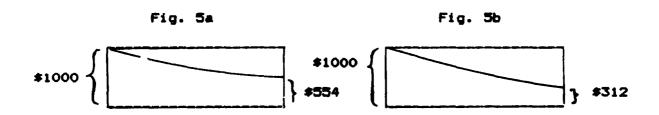
This report is involved with uncovering the number of dollars of civilian pay which would equate the two streams of income pictured geometrically below. Note that the military pay box is taller than the retirement boxes, because military paychecks are larger than retirement checks. Because we will

only be discussing short periods of military pay, that box will not be as long as the retirement or civilian pay boxes. The boxes of dollars are not drawn to scale.



The question to be answered is: how tall (how many dollars) do the two civilian pay boxes have to be to equate the two present values. Remember, present value is the size of the "principal" portion of the boxes.

One thing that will cause our answer to change is a change in the interest rate used. Figures 5a and 5b show how a box for equal, regular \$1000 payments would look for 20 years of payments. Interest rates of 3% and 6% are used. This means that



the last \$1000 monthly payment could be financed with \$554 that earned 3% per year for 20 years, or it could be financed with \$312 that earned 6% for 20 years.

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The algebra for the calculations is presented next. This section may be skipped without any loss of continuity.

SECTION THREE

THE ALGEBRA OF PRESENT DISCOUNTED VALUE

An amount of money placed in a savings account will earn interest at a particular interest rate. If the amount is not withdrawn, the principal will grow by a compounded amount. The following table shows the compounding of \$1000 at 6% interest.

Table 1

NUMBER OF YEARS	ACCOUNT BALANCE
0	\$ 1000
1	1060
2	1123
3	1171
4	1262
5	1338

The calculations can be written as

where FV = future value

PV = present value

i = annual interest rate

n = number of years

So,

$$$1338 = $1000 \times (1 + .06)^{5}$$

and

$$$1262 = $1000 \times (1 + .06)$$

Present discounted value is very similar. The present value of \$1338 in 5 years (at an interest rate or discount rate of 6%) is the \$1000 that we started with. The general formula for present discounted value is:

PV = FV /
$$(1 + i)$$

Or equivalently,

PV = FV x $(1 + i)$

Finding the present value of an annuity involves finding the present value of each of the future payments to be received. Using summation notation for the same example as on page 5, we have:

$$\sum_{j=0}^{1} MP_{6,24} \times (1+i)^{j}$$
+
$$\sum_{j=2}^{1} RP_{6,26} \times (1+i)^{j}$$
+
$$\sum_{j=2}^{2} 6,26$$
+
$$\sum_{j=2}^{4} CP \times (1+i)^{j}$$

where the subscripts indicate rank, years of service

In abbreviated form, the formula can be rewritten solving for the value of CP which satisfies the equality.

where (in) and (out) refer to the appropriate values of of military and retirement pay for each decision

This is, with modifications, the formula used to calculate the "breakeven" civilian salaries for various retirement scenarios.

The modifications will be explained below.

A sample present discounted value table is presented in Table 2 for a 6% interest rate and \$1000 future value.

Table 2

NUMBER	QΕ	YEARS	Preseni	AUTHE	
		0	\$:	1000	
		1		943	
2			890		
		3		840	
		4		792	
		5		747	

The present value table shows the amount of money you would need

to start with to end up years. to start with to end up with \$1000 after the indicated number of

SECTION FOUR

METHODOLOGY AND ASSUMPTIONS

Methodology

As stated above, the focus of the problem is on the amount of civilian pay which it would take to make the present value of the decision to continue on active duty be exactly equal to the present value of the decision to retire. A civilian pay in excess of the amount would tilt the decision toward earlier retirement. A civilian pay less than the amount would tilt the decision toward delayed retirement. The approach is discrete in that only two decision points are compared at a time. The points chosen compare the 20, 22, 24, 26 and 28 years of time in service with the 22, 24, 26, 28, and 30 year points respectively. That is, every decision is whether to retire "now" or "in two years", where "now" means once every two years from 20 to 28 years of service.

The policy issue which is addressed is the consequence of retired pay capping on the retirement decision financial criterion.

Explicit Assumptions

For the calculations performed, it was assumed that the member entered active duty at age 22, will retire at one of the discrete two-year points, will work in the civilian labor force from military retirement until age 65, and will die at age 75. The interactive program attached at Appendix A allows the reader to change the entering age. The program can be modified to allow

for other civilian retirement ages and expected mortality points.

Implicit Assumptions

A single financial criterion implies that all the "non-financial" aspects of the choice (location, duty hours, commaraderie, familiarity, inertia, etc.) are perfectly offsetting, or that the "non-financial" aspects will be weighed along with the financial criterion in arriving at a final decision.

The single financial criterion implies that the availabilities of civilian employment are neither lessened by greater age nor improved by additional military experience, or that these two factors are offsetting. In terms of the dollar statistic, it means that your chances of getting a job at a given salary neither improve nor regress in two years.

There are no special duty pays included in military pay.

Individuals drawing hazardous duty pay or aircrew incentive pay
must make a subjective evaluation of how that influences the
decision.

Other financial factors (availability of Survivors Benefit Protection, protection from some state taxation, and the non-taxability of some military pay) are not included in this analysis.

Except where specifically included, all factors are considered in real terms, that is, fully adjusted for the effects of inflation. This means that military pay, retired pay, and civilian pay are assumed to adjust for inflation. This assumption can be modified by judicious selection of some of the

choice variables described immediately below.

The opportunity for promotion to the next higher grade/grades has been excluded from consideration, except as noted for Lieutentant Colonels at the 20 year point, but would be expected to have a significant impact on the results, encouraging continued active duty.

The use of discrete increments for computation makes the assumption of unchanged job opportunities more likely to be a reasonable one. As the time period moves beyond 2 years, the assumption become less tenable. The reader would then have to incorporate enhanced or diminished civilian job opportunities into the non-quantified factors influencing the retirement decision.

Choice Variables

<u>Rank.</u> Computations were done for officer paygrades 4 through 6, though the program and input data allow for computations for 0-1E through 0-7.

<u>Discount Rate.</u> Computations were done for interest rates (real) ranging from 1% to 10% per year in increments of 3%. The programming allows for the use of any interest rate greater than zero percent, including fractional percentages. The choice should be made keeping in mind the following information. The long run real rates of return on investments in U.S. Treasury bills, U.S. government bonds, corporate bonds, and common stocks have averaged approximately 0%, 0.8%, 1.5%, and 6.5% respectively. [1] It is the author's opinion that the future will

hold marginally better (add 1%) returns because of structural changes in recent years. While these are rates received on lending/investing funds, the rates charged to borrowers are traditionally a few percent higher. Commercial banks often charged borrowers 4% above the bank's cost of funds. Charge cards often charge a real interest rate in excess of 12%. An appropriate interest/discount rate would probably lie between what you expect to pay when borrowing and expect to receive when lending. You should probably lean more towards what you have to pay if you expect to be a net borrower for most of your remaining life. If, however, you expect to be a net lender (saver), then lean more towards the rates you hope to receive (pay).

Civilian Raises. Raises in civilian pay were built into the program with the possibility of using any positive real rate of growth. The program is constrained to allow civilian pay to rise by the same percentage every year for 10 consecutive years from the point of initial civilian employment. Computations were performed in increments of 1% in the range of 0% to 4% compounded annual growth. [Note that compounding causes a 4% growth rate to yield a compounded growth of 48% over 10 years.]

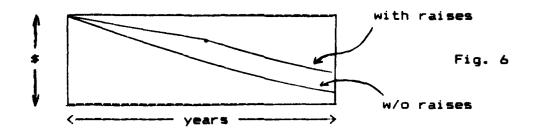
Retired Caps. Two government policies were considered regarding the "capping" of retired pay. The first is to cap pay for the next 10 calendar years by some constant percentage. This would probably mean that retired pay would be partially adjusted for inflation for 10 years and fully-indexed after that. Computations were done in 1% increments ranging from 0% (no cap) to 3% per year (a cumulative 26% cap after 10 years). This policy would discourage retirement because the effects of retired

pay capping could be completely or partially avoided by remaining on active duty for all or part of the 10 year implementation period. The second policy consideration is to cap the retired pay from the date of retirement till age 62 of the retiree, then to fully-index that retiree's payments. This seems a more likely possibility, but because it would be effective for a longer period of time the retiree should hope that the cap is smaller each year. The results of this system of capping are not obvious. Delayed retirement would avoid little of the effects of the capping by rendering the individual subject to it for fewer years. Yet the capping itself reduced the importance of the retirement pay in comparison to the other factors -- the military pay and civilian pays available. Computations were done in increments of 1% from 0% to 3% per year (a cumulative cap of 45% after 20 years). The effects of this capping method fall differently on individuals depending on the age upon entering service and the years of service at retirement.

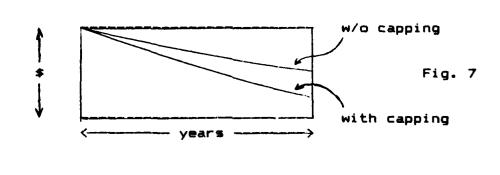
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The Geometry of Pay Raises and Caps

The assumption of regular raises at a given percentage raises the present value of the retirement pay associated with a given starting salary. The raises may partially, completely, or more than completely offset the effects of discounting. A partial offset, as with 6% discounting and 3% pay raises is depicted in Figure 6 below. Note that the raises continue for only 10 of the 20 years shown.



The geometry is similar for "capping" retirement pay, except that the cap reinforces the effects of discounting. Figure 7 below illustrates the reduction in present value from capping.



The Algebra of Raises and Capping

For an individual who began civilian employment with civilian pay, CP, and who received salary increases of w% each year, the present value of that salary (if discounted at i% per year for "j" years) is given by the following formula.

Note that in discounting to the present, the exponents may be different if the calculation is for the fourth year in the future but only for the second year of civilian salary raises (as would be the case for a two year continuation of active duty).

Similarly, the formula for the present value of retired pay to be received "j" years into the future, with discount rate "i", and with a "c" percentage pay cap is given below.

A sample problem is shown below in Figure 8. The interrogations are the ones which appear on-screen when the program in Attachment A is run using MBASIC (Microsoft Basic). One possible set of responses are indicated in heavy script. The reader should note that the present discounted values of the two possible streams are equalized. The civilian pay which would cause that to be the case is indicated on the last line of the figure.

An output table from a large program which iterates through myriad combinations of interest rate, pay raise rates, and capping rates is shown for specific choices of those variables and for paygrades of Major through BrigGen. The MIL-PAY column shows current monthly military pay. The next two columns show the "breakeven" monthly and yearly starting civilian salaries. This sample is titled Figure 9.

What interest rate (discount rate) would you like to use? Pick a rate which is over and above the inflation rate. Input as a decimal: e.g. 4% entered as .04	.045
What is your rank? Input your pay grade: e.g. LtCol entered as 5	
What is your time in service for pay? Enter one of the following: 20, 22, 24, 26, 28	20
At what annual rate would you expect your civilian pay to rise The same figure will be used for 10 consecutive raises. Enter as a decimal: e.g. 3.1% as .031	.025
How old were you when you began service? Enter your age to the whole year: e.g. 21	24
What annual retired pay cap do you expect? Pay cap chosen will be applied annually from retirement till you are 62 years of age. Choose some percentage from 0 to 3%. Enter your choice as a decimal: e.g. as .02 for two percent.	.012

THE PRESE	NT VA	LUE	OF	TWO MORE YEARS MILITARY INCOME IS	\$	95600.3
THE PRESE	NT VA	LUE	OF	RETIRED PAY IN 2 YEARS IS	\$	3149 30
THE PRESE	NT VA	LUE	OF	CIVILIAN PAY STARTED IN 2 YEARS IS	\$	577145
Т	HE VA	LUE	OF	DELAYED RETIREMENT IS	\$	987675
THE PRESE	NT VA	LUE	OF	IMMEDIATE RETIRED PAY IS	\$	316495
THE PRESE	NT VA	LUE	OF	IMMEDIATE CIVILIAN PAY IS	\$	671180
T	HE VA	LUE	OF	IMMEDIATE RETIREMENT IS	\$	987675
THE CIVII	TAN P	יש עם	нтс	H IS YOUR BREAKEVEN POINT IS \$ 39398.	2	

Fig. 8

Fig. 9

I is the interest rate (4%)
RAISES are annual raises in civilian pay (2%)
CAP is the annual loss of retired pay to inflation (1%)
GRADE is the officer paygrade (4 - 7)
TIS is the time in service for pay purposes

1	RAISES	CAP	GRADE	TIS	MIL-PAY	MO-CIV-PAY	YR-CIV-FAY
4	2	1	4	20	3565	2747.53	32970.3
4 4 4 4	2 2 2 2	1 1 1	សសសស	20 22 24 26	4071 4190 4190 4190	3562.05 3044.14 2861.73 2675.9	42744.6 36529.7 34340.7 32110.8
4 4 4 4	2 2 2 2 2	1 1 1 1	გ გ გ	20 22 24 26 28	4478 4697 4697 5035 5035	4233.51 3407.71 4561.08 3194.06 2961.64	50802.1 40892.5 54733 38328.7 35539.7
4 4 4	2 2 2	1 1 1	7 7 7	24 26 28	5695 5695 5695	3864.4 3605.12 3340.6	46372.8 43261.5 40087.2

MILPAY is for the given rank and TIS
MO-CIV-PAY & YR-CIV-PAY are the monthly and yearly civilian
pay which make retirement a "breakeven" proposition.

SECTION FIVE

RESULTS

The Present Value of the Retired Pay

The first step in the analysis was to determine the present value of the retirement streams of income for different paygrades, different years of service, different interest rates, and different annual retired pay caps. Were the decision of the individual to rest solely on receiving the most valuable retirement package, at relatively low interest and capping rates, a Major would remain till mandatory retirement at 22 years time in service. A Lieutenant Colonel would remain till 26 years, retiring two years prior to the mandatory point. A Colonel would remain till 26 years and separate after receiving the significant "fogey" at 26. A Brigadier General would retire at 26 — the increasing percentage of base pay having finally been more than offset by the fewer years of retirement left.

At a relatively low interest rate and high cap, the Major retires at 20, the LtCol at 22 (unless promoted), the Col at 26 again, and the BrigGen at 24. No earlier possible retirement was allowed for BrigGen's due to the rarity of 20 year promotees to that rank. Nor were promotion possibilities calculated for any rank.

At relatively moderate interest rates (4%) with no capping U-4 thru U-7's retired at 20, 22, 26, and 24 respectively. High rates of capping (3%) led all but Col's to retire as early as possible. The 26 year point remained optimal for U-6's.

At high interest rates, even 0-6's exited at 20 years of service with as little as a 1% annual cap. Selected data is contained in Appendix 8. Figure 10 shows how to read that data.

Fig. 10

The information at the top shows choices of interest rate, capping rate, and age on entering service.

G	TIS	PV FOR TIS	PV FOR TIS+2	EXTRA PV FOR +2
5	20	517.378	542.796	+25,418

where G is officer paygrade (5 = LtCol/Commander)
TIS is "time in service" for pay
PV FOR TIS is the present value of retirement
pay for immediate retirement w/ 20 years
PV FOR T+2 is the present value of retirement
pay w/ 22 years TIS
EXTRA PV FOR +2 is the numerical difference

Note that for some years a minus "EXTRA" means that there is less PV for more years of service.

Level yersus Increasing Civilian Pay

Level civilian pay means that a retiree would assume civilian employment immediately upon retirement from active duty and remain at the same salary till civilian retirement at age 62. No civilian retirement checks are included, so the relevant civilian pay for decision makers should consider that as value to be added to the gross monthly pay.

One choice variable mentioned above is the rate of annual growth of civilian pay. The functional restriction is placed

off after 10 years of civilian employment. The growth of pay is expected to allow the civilian break-even starting salary to decrease because lower initial salary is offset by greater salary later. The sensitivity of the breakeven salary was isolated for moderate interest and cap rates (4% and 2%) for a LtCol at 20 years and for a Col at 24 years. The breakeven salary decreased by approximately \$1600 for each 0.5% increase in raises. Selected data is presented in Appendix C.

The Influence of Age

Age played a very minor factor, partially because of its real influence and partially because of simplifying constraints. For an entry age onto active duty between 21 and 26, the breakeven salary for a LtCol varied by \$600 per year; for a Col, by \$1700 per year. The imposed constraint was an expected age of death of 75. The mortality tables [2] indicate ages from 74-76 for retirement ages between 21 and 54. Selected data is presented in Appendix D.

The Influence of the Interest Rate Choice

Changes in the discount rate were expected to cause significant changes in the breakeven income. Greater discount rates cause near-term income to be weighted much heavier than income to be received further into the future. The relative weights are shown in Fig. 5. The difference between 0% and 10% discounting caused the LtCol, 20 year breakeven salary to range between \$46,000 and \$33,000. For a Col at 24, the salary ranged

from \$61,000 to \$39,000. This should emphasize the importance of the choice of discount rate to match individual circumstances. Selected data is presented in Appendix E.

Capping Retired Pay

Capping of retired pay lowers the breakeven civilian salary more the greater is the size of the cap (for caps levied to age 62). For the 20 year LtCol, no cap yields a salary of \$41,000, but a 4% cap yields a \$35,000 salary. Thus the influence of such a policy option is to reduce the attractiveness of military service to the retirement eligible member. The value of uncapped income rises in proportion to the capped income. This occurs despite the ability to avoid part of the application of the cap by remaining on active duty longer. Similar results, though for a greater dollar range, exist for the Colonel. The range is from \$53,000 to \$43,000 as the cap rises from 0% to 4% per annum.

The opposite results appear from an inspection of data when the pay cap policy is a "one shot affair" to run for a set number of calendar years. The data was computed for 10 years application of capping. The incentive was to stay on active duty longer (leave only for a higher salary) to avoid the years that the cap was scheduled to exist. Such a cap is a "full career incentive" to senior members even if it would not be a "career incentive" to junior service members. Selected data is presented in Appendix F.

SECTION SIX

INCORPORATING PROMOTION POSSIBILITIES

This section considers the effects of promotion chances on the decision of a Lieutenant Colonel with 20 years of service. The analysis was based on some simplifying assumptions. The assumed behavior was that the individual would remain in the military to the 26 year point if selected for promotion to Colonel and would retire at the 22 year point if "passed over". structure of the programming required some explicit behavioral assumptions and these were chosen for a number Most individuals selected to Colonel receive word of the selection between 20 and 22 years of service. Acceptance requires service of a minimum of two years in grade. in grade requires a minimum of three additional years service following "pin on". This puts most Colonels past the 24 year point. Earlier results indicate that most incentives are to remain until the 26 year point. The absence of pay increases past the 22 year point for LtCol's led to that as the choice of separation point for non-selectees.

The breakeven point was again calculated for varying interest rates, civilian pay raises, and retired pay caps. The additional variable was the chances of promotion to Colonel. As the probability of promotion varies greatly by individual, calculations were done over the range of no chance (0%) to surety (100%) in increments of 10%. For a moderate discount rate (4%), moderate civilian raises (2%), and moderate retired pay cap (2)

the breakeven salary moved from \$43,000 to \$50,000 to \$53,000 as the promotion expectation varied from 0% to 50% to 100% respectively. At a 7% discount rate, the breakeven salaries drop by \$5000, \$6000, and \$7000 respectively, even though the other variables are held constant. Lower discount rates indicate a greater value is placed on the income associated with promotion and retirement at a higher grade. With moderate assumptions, then, an 0-5 requires 70-80% of his active duty salary as an inducement to retire at 20 years without "looking at the board". Higher discounts reduce the civilian salary required by about 10% for each 2% change in discount rate.

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SECTION SEVEN

WHAT THIS ANALYSIS DOES AND DOESN'T DO

This analysis is presented acknowledging the following limitations. It does not include any measure of employment sensitivity to the breakeven salaries computed. It considers only discrete two year choices; and does not, for example, compare the 20 year point with the 26 year point. It does not adjust expected mortality for the decision point, though this is believed to cause minimal damage to the conclusions. It does not consider promotion possibilities for any of the decision points. It does not consider all the financial aspects or any of the non-financial aspects of the retirement decision.

This analysis does, however, combine the major financial factors influencing the decision to give the individual a precise rule of action matched to personal circumstances. The individual can base the personal decision on a tailored decision rule: If the anticipated salary is greater than the breakeven points, then retirement is the financially preferred option.

REFERENCES

[1] Roger B. Ibbotson and Rex A. Sinquefield, "Stocks, Bonds, Bills and Inflation: Updates", <u>Financial Analysts Journal</u>, July-August 1979, pp. 40-44.

[2] 1980 Commissioners Standard Ordinary Mortality Table 1984 Best's Flitcraft Compend, pg. 662.

------ QUERIES FOR SPECIFIC VARIABLE CHOICES ---------ONETIME. BAS +++++++++++++++++++ PRINT "What interest rate (discount rate) would you like to use?" PRINT "Pick a rate which is over and above the inflation rate." I IS THE REAL RATE OF INTEREST TO BE USED FOR DISCOUNTING "Enter one of the following: 20, 22, 24, 26, 28" IJ٦ PRINT "Input your pay grade: e.g. LtCol entered as PRINT "Input as a decimal: e.g. 4% entered as .04 PRINI "What is your time in service for pay?" 11 10 'PROGRAM = ONETINE
20 PRINT "++++++++++++++ PROGRAM = 30 PRINT: PRINT
50 PRINT: PRINT
60 '
70 '
80 '======== QUERIES FOR SPECIFIC VF PRINT "What is your rank? = 22 THEN GOTO 320 = 24 THEN GOTO 320 IF GRADE<1 THEN GOTO 180 IF GRADE>7 THEN GOTD 180 = 20 THEN GOTO 320 IF 1>.2 THEN GDTD 100 IF ICO THEN GOTO 100 INPUT GRADE I TUPNI PRINT INPUT PRINT IF S2 PRINT 200 100 230 110 120 130 140 240 250 2**60** 270 051 091 80 90 210 220

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PRINT "At what annual rate would you expect your civilian pay to rise?"
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              Choose some percentage from 0 to 3%."
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          PRINT "Pay cap chosen will be applied annually from retirement till"
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              PRINT "Enter your choice as a decimal: e.g. as .02 for two percent."
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    PRINT "The same figure will be used for 10 consecutive raises."
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  'B IS BASE PAY FOR PAYGRADE≈G AND SERVICE≈S
'Q IS QUARTERS ALLOWANCE FOR PAYGRADE
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          PRINT "What annual retired pay cap do you expect?"
                                                                                                                                                                    PRINT "How old were you when you began service?"
                                                                                                                                                                                     PRINT "Enter your age to the whole year: e.g. 21
                                                                                   e.g. 3.1% as .031
= 26 THEN GDTO 320
= 28 THEN GDTO 320 ELSE GDTO 250
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           PRINT "you are 62 years of age.
                                                                                                                 IF RAISES < 0 THEN GOTO 320
IF RAISES > .06 THEN GOTO 320
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              IF CAP > .035 THEN GOTO 460
                                                                                  PRINT "Enter as a decimal:
                                                                                                                                                                                                                        IF AGE < 17 THEN GOTO 400
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        IF AGE > 24 THEN GOTO 400
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               IF CAP < 0 THEN G0T0 460
                                                                                                   INPUT RAISES
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    DIM B(8,11)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              INPUT CAP
                                                                                                                                                                                                       INPUT AGE
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  DIM Q(8)
IF S2
IF S2
PRINT
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         PRINT
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'PAY RAISES FOR O THRU 10 YEARS AS CIVILIAN 'RETD PAY CAP FACTOR FROM NOW FOR 10/25 YEARS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       IS SERVICE TIME
IS SERVICE TIME OVER 20 YEARS
                                                                 'PRESENT VALUE FACTOR FOR YEARS 0 THRU 33
                                                                                                                                                ======= INPUT CURRENT PAY DATA (A/0 1 JAN 85) ===============
'M IS MILITARY PAY = B+Q+F
'R IS RETIRED PAY FOR GRADE, SERVICE
                          FNPV(INTEREST, TERM) = (1/(1+INTEREST) ~TERM)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        2592,2592,2592,2592,2592,2592
2954,2954,2954,2954,2954,2954
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               DATA 1857,1857,1857,1857,1857,1857
DATA 2195,2195,2195,2195,2195
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   3413,3532,3532,3532,3532,3532
3773,3992,3992,4330,4330,4330
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               4928,4928,4928,4928,4928,4928
                                       FNBUMPS(ANNUAL, TERMS) = ((1+ANNUAL) ~TERMS)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                 DATA 324,361,421,505,552,599,661
                                                    FNRETCAP(CAP, TIME) = (1/(1+CAP)^TIME)
                                                                                                                                                            'F IS FOOD ALLOWANCE
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        .
.
.
.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       S1=20 TO 30 STEP
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    LET S = S1-20
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         DATA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    DATA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 DATA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       DATA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               DATA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 READ B(G,S)
                                                                FACTOR (39)
                                                                                                                                                                                                     READ Q(G)
                                                                                                                                                                                       740 FOR G=1 TO 7
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          G=1 TO 7
                                                                               BUMP (11)
                                                                                           FCAP (26)
             R(8,11)
 M(8,11)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                NEXT G
                                                                                                                                                            LET F=106
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          FOR
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       FOR
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announce SET RETIRED PAY CAP TILL AGE 62 exemplements exemples exemples and exemples are also and exemples and exemples and exemples are also and exemples and exemples are also and exemples and exemples are also and exemples are also and exemples are also and exemples are also are also and exemples are also and exemples are also and exemples are also are
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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     980 'emanames SET INTEREST/DISCOUNT RATE emanamentalmentalmentalmentalment
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              050 FOR YEARS = 0 TO 10 STEP 1 : LET BUMP (YEARS) = FNBUMPS (RAISES, YEARS)
                                                        CALCULATE RETIRED PAY
TOTALING MILITARY PAY
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          'NOTE: COMPUTED VALUES ARE ZEROED BECAUSE OF ITERATIVE ADDITIONS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              FOR YEARS = 0 TO 25 STEP 1 : LET FCAP (YEARS) =FNRETCAP (CAP, YEARS)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              990 FOR YEARS = 0 TO 33 STEP 1 : LET FACTOR (YEARS) =FNFV(I, YEARS)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      1180 LET PMISUM=0 : PRISUM=0 : PROSUM=0 : PCISUM=0 1190 LET S = S2 - 20
                                                        (.0 + .025*5)
    (B)
    B(G,S)
B(G,S)
                    11
    M(6,5)
R(6,5)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          120 NEXT YEARS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              1000 NEXT YEARS
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              NEXT YEARS
        LET
                                                                                                                     920 NEXT S1
930 NEXT G
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    970 G=GRADE
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    900
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IF YCD<10.1 THEN PCD=FACTOR(YCO)*BUMP(YCO) ELSE PCD=FACTOR(YCO)*BUMP(10)
            FOR (AGE + S2) BETWEEN 41 AND 54
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    ELSE YROCAP=CRET
                                                                                                                                                                                                 LET PRISUM = PRISUM + FACTOR(YRI) * FCAP (YRICAF)
                                                                                                                                                                FOR YRI = 2 TO DIE STEP 1
IF YRI<CRET THEN YRICAP=YRI ELSE YRICAP=CRET
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    PROSUM = PROSUM + FACTOR (YRD) * FCAP (YRDCAP)
200 LET DIE = 75 - AGE - S2
210 'NDTE THAT MORTALITY TABLES SHOW
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    YROCAP=YRO
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  LET PRISUM = PRISUM * R(G,S+2)
                                                                                                  PMISUM = PMISUM + FACTOR (YMI)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   LET PROSUM = PROSUM * R(G,S)
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    430 FOR YCO = 0 TO CRET STEP 1
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     1480 FOR YCI = 2 TO CRET STEP 1
1490 LET YCIZ = YCI - 2
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 FOR YRO = 0 TO DIE STEP 1
IF YROCCRET THEN YROCA
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    LET PCOSUM = PCOSUM + PCO
                                                                                                                                 PMISUM = FMISUM * M(G,S)
                                                                                 FOR YMI = 0 TO 1 STEP 1
                                                230 LET CRET = DIE - 10
                                                                                                                 NEXT YMI
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  NEXT YRD
                                                                                                                                                                                                                  NEXT YRI
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      NEXT YCO
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[] *BUMP (10)								\$".*			\$";RYI		*" FCISUMM			NNI *: #			*";RYD			
1500 IF YCIZ<10.1 THEN PCI=FACTOR(YCI)*BUMP(YCIZ) ELSE PCI=FACTOR(YCI)*BUMP(10) 1510 PCISUM = PCISUM + PCI 1520 NEXT YCI	LET C = (1550 LET CYR=C*12	1570	1580 '	1590 'assesses PRINTOUT manacameteraca	1600 PRINT CHR\$(12)	1610 MY = PMISUM * 12	1620 PRINT "THE PRESENT VALUE OF TWO MORE YEARS MILITARY INCOME IS	PRINT	1640 RYI = PRISUM * 12		PCISUMM = P		Ę	INN = MY +	10 PRINT " THE VALUE OF DELAYED RETIREMENT IS	PRINT: PRINT	RYO = PROS	1740 PRINT "THE PRESENT VALUE OF IMMEDIATE RETIRED PAY IS	1750 PRINT	PCOSUMM = F	1770 TRINI THE PRESENT VALUE OF IMMEDIATE CIVILIAN PAY IS $1790 \text{ OUTT} = \text{PCOSUMM} + \text{RYO}$

	THE VALUE OF IMMEDIATE RETIREMENT IS \$"; OUTT		1830 PRINT "THE CIVILIAN PAY WHICH IS YOUR BREAKEVEN POINT IS \$";CYR		1860 PRINT "To rerun this program type: RUN, then hit the RETURN key."	
	" IMMEDIATE RETIRE		Y WHICH IS YOUR BE		rogram type: RUN,	
トフ		1820 PRINT: PRINT: PRINT	NT "THE CIVILIAN PAY	トフ	VT "To rerun this pr	
1800 PRINT	1810 PRINT "	1820 PRI	1830 PRI	1850 PRI	1860 PRI	TATO FAI

INTEREST RATE = .01
RETD PAY CAP = .01
ENTERING AGE = 22

G	TIS	PV FOR TIS	PV FOR TIS+2	EXTRA PV FOR +2
4	20	447798	453969	6171.19
5	20	517378	542796	25417.9
5	22	564836	565825	989
5	24	588799	583309	5489.88
5	26	606994	5949 33	-12061.2
6 6 6	20	571951	613489	41537.9
	22	638398	639516	1117.75
	24	665483	715099	49615.9
	26	744134	729348	-14786.3
	28	758962	736002	-22960.5
7	2 4	821518	813858	-7 659.56
7	26	846904	830076	-1 6828. 3
7	28	863780	837649	-26131.3

INTEREST RATE = .01 RETD PAY CAP = .03 ENTERING AGE = 22

G	TIS	PV FOR TIS	PV FOR TIS+2	EXTRA PV FOR +2
4	20	347926	344481	-3444.91
5	20	401987	411884	9 897
5	22	445751	436398	-9352.78
5	24	472280	457605	-14675.3
5	26	495231	475137	-20093.6
6	20	444388	465527	21138.7
6	22	503804	493233	-10570.9
6	24	533 789	560994	27204.7
6	26	607121	582487	-24633.4
6	28	630381	598978	-31403.1
7	24	658946	638470	-20475.6
7	26	690968	662932	-28035.6
7	28	717441	681701	-35740.1

INTEREST RATE = .04
RETD PAY CAP = .01
ENTERING AGE = 22

G	TIS	PV FOR TIS	PV FOR TIS+2	EXTRA PV FOR +2
4	20	3022 93	294465	-7828.06
ភភភភភ	20	349264	352081	2817.94
	22	388465	374140	-14325.6
	24	412803	393426	-19377.1
	26	434083	409560	-24523.1
6 6 6 6	20	386104	397936	11832.2
	22	439058	422867	-16191.4
	24	466566	482315	15748.8
	26	532157	502093	-30063.8
	28	553980	517479	-36500.2
7	24	575961	548926	-27035.7
7	26	605651	571436	-34215.7
7	28	630488	588946	-41541.1

INTEREST RATE = .07 RETD PAY CAP = .01 ENTERING AGE = 22

G	TIS	PV FOR TIS	PV FOR TIS+2	EXTRA PV FOR +2
4	20	221388	205990	-15398.1
5	20	255788	246295	-9492.55
5	22	287651	264840	-22811.7
5	24	309309	282043	-27266.2
5	26	329402	297618	-31783.5
6 6 6 6	20	282768	278372	-4395.84
	22	325114	299332	-25782.6
	24	349593	345766	-3826.75
	26	403825	364860	-38964.5
	28	426125	381532	-44592.5
7	24	431 5 62	393519	-38042.9
7	26	459595	415250	-44345.8
7	28	484975	434224	-50750.9

DISCOUNT RATE .04
RAISES ### TESTING THIS VARIABLE ###
CAP .02
AGE ENTERED 22
RANK 5
YRS SERVICE 20
RET POLICY 2

VARIABLE	YR-MIL-PAY	YR-CIV-PAY	
0	48852	47867.4	
.005	48852	45963.9	
.01	48852	44134.3	
.015	48852	42376	
.02	48852	40686.7	
.025	48852	39063.7	
.03	48852	37505	
.035	48852	36008.2	
.04	48852	34570.9	
.045	48852	33191.2	
.05	48852	31866.8	
.055	48852	30 5°5.6	
.06	48852	29375.6	

DISCOUNT RATE	.04	•		
RAISES	### TESTING	THIS	VARIABLE	材料钳
CAP	.02			
AGE ENTERED	22			
RANK	ర			
YRS SERVICE	24			
RET POLICY	2			

VARIABLE	YR-MIL-PAY	YR-CIV-FAY	
0	56364	60702.3	
.005	56364	58288.5	
.01	56364	55968.3	
.015	56364	53738.4	
.02	56364	51596.1	
.025	56364	49538	
.03	56364	47561.4	
.035	56364	45663.2	
.04	56 364	43840.6	
.045	56 364	42090.8	
.05	56364	40411.3	
. 055	56 364	38799.3	
.06	56364	37252.2	

DISCOUNT RATE .04
RAISES .03
CAP .02
AGE ENTERED ### TESTING THIS VARIABLE ###
RANK 5
YRS SERVICE 20
RET POLICY 2

VARIABLE	YR-MIL-PAY	YR~CIV~PAY
21	48852	37458.7
22	48852	37 505
23	48852	373 57.4
24	48852	37200.8
25	48852	37034 . 8
26	48852	36858.6

DISCOUNT RATE .04
RAISES .03
.02
AGE ENTERED ### TESTING THIS VARIABLE ###
RANK 6
YRS SERVICE 24
RET POLICY 2

VARIABLE	YR-MIL-PAY	YR-CIV-PAY	
21 22 23 24 25	56364 56364 56364 56364 56364 56364	47874.2 47561.4 47229.4 46877.4 46503.9 46107.7	

DISCOUNT RATE	### TESTING THIS VARIABLE ###
RAISES	.03
CAP	.02
AGE ENTERED	22
RANK	5
YRS SERVICE	20
RET POLICY	2

VARIABLE	YR-MIL-PAY	YR-CIV-PAY	
0 .01 .02 .03 .04 .05 .06	48852 48852 48852 48852 48852 48852 48852	46195 43288.5 40947.6 39050.9 37505 36237.7 35192.4	
.09 .09 .1	48952 48852 48852	34325.5 33602.2 32995.2 32483.1	

DISCOUNT RATE	### TESTING THIS VARIABLE ###
RAISES	.03
CAP	.02
AGE ENTERED	22
RANK	৬
YRS SERVICE	24
RET POLICY	2

VARIABLE	YR-MIL-PAY	YR-CIV-PAY
0	56364	61127.4
.01	56364	567 6 0.9
.02	56364	53133.4
.03	56364	50104.2
.04	56364	47561.4
.05	56364	45415.6
.06	56364	43595.3
.07	56364	42042.9
.08	56364	40712.1
.09	56364	39565.2
. 1	56364	38571.7

DISCOUNT RATE .04
RAISES .03
CAP ### TESTING THIS VARIABLE ###
AGE ENTERED 22
RANK 5
YRS SERVICE 20
RET POLICY 2

VARIABLE	YR-MIL-PAY	YR-CIV-FAY	
0 .005 .01 .015 .02 .025 .03	48852 48852 48852 48852 48852 48852 48852 48852	41681 40488.6 39402 38410.6 37505 36676.7 35918.2 35222.9 34584.6	

DISCOUNT RATE .04
RAISES .03
CAP ### TESTING THIS VARIABLE ###
AGE ENTERED 22
RANK 6
YRS SERVICE 24
RET POLICY 2

VARIABLE	YR-MIL-PAY	YR-CIV-FAY	
0 .005 .01 .015 .02 .025 .03	56364 56364 56364 56364 56364 56364 56364 56364	53843.9 52080.2 50452.9 48950.3 47561.4 46276.6 45087 43984.7 42962.4	

END

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